

CLAIMS

1. A hair dye composition comprising the following ingredients (A) and (B):

(A) a compound having a 5- or 6-membered lactone skeleton,

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(B) an acid dye; and

having a pH of from 2 to 6 and a buffer capacity not lower than 0.004 gram equivalent/L but lower than 0.2 gram equivalent/L as measured in a form of a tenfold dilute aqueous solution.

10 2. A hair dye composition according to claim 1, further comprising the following ingredient (C):

(C) a fragrance composition comprising a combination of a fragrance substance having a ClogP value not greater than 1.5 and another fragrance substance having a ClogP
15 value not smaller than 3.0.

3. A hair dye composition according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising the following ingredient (D):

(D) at least one organic solvent selected from benzyloxy ethanol, benzyl alcohol, phenoxyethanol, phenoxyisopropanol, benzyl glycerol, N-benzyl-formamide, cinnamyl alcohol, phenethyl alcohol, p-anisyl alcohol, ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 1-butanol, butoxyethanol, p-methylbenzyl alcohol, methyl carbitol, ethyl

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carbitol, or propyl carbitol.

4. A hair dye composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein
said ingredient (A) is a compound having a 5- or 6-membered lactone
skeleton and carrying an alkyl group having 2 or more carbon
atoms and substituted thereon.

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5. A hair dye composition according to claim 4, wherein
said ingredient (A) is γ -hexanolactone or γ -heptanolactone.

6. A hair dye composition according to claim 1 or 2,
comprising Acid Orange 7 as said ingredient (B).

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7. A method of dyeing hair, which comprises applying onto
said hair a hair dye composition according to claim 1 or 2.